UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/54/331
S/1999/959
9 September 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-fourth session
Item 117 (c) of the provisional agenda*
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 8 September 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued on 3 September 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 117 (c) of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Marjatta RASI
Permanent Representative
of Finland to the
United Nations

* A/54/150.

99-25970 (E) 100999 100999

/...

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued on 3 September 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union acknowledges with contentment that the signing of the Lusaka Agreement has been completed by the signatures of the Rassemblement congolais pour la démocratie. The European Union wishes to commend Zambia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and other mediators for their successful diplomatic efforts that led to the signing of the ceasefire agreement by all the parties. The European Union considers the Lusaka Agreement crucial for the restoration of peace and stability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the entire Central African region.

The European Union urges all the parties to proceed immediately to the implementation of the Agreement, to strictly abide by the Agreement and to refrain from any action putting it at risk.

The European Union pledges its support to the implementation of the Lusaka Agreement, provided that all the parties respect and implement the Agreement in accordance with the terms set out therein. The European Union is ready to support national reconciliation, rehabilitation and democratization in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the process of reintegration of displaced people in the Great Lakes region into their countries of origin.

The European Union underlines its readiness to support the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, which both have an important role in the implementation of the peace agreement, especially in the peacekeeping operations.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus and Malta, and the countries of the European Free Trade Association members of the European Economic Area align themselves with the present statement.